



The Spectrum
Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Chapter
<http://chapters.scte.org/rockymtn>
February 2010

Letter from the President:
Nick Segura

Dear Rocky Mountain Chapter colleagues,

We've grown!

2010 membership in CO is up to 476 – a jump from last year. The number of affiliates to RMC has grown as well (loyalty).

The success of our Chapter is due in large part to the great group of industry professionals that keep the Board focused on leading a progressive Chapter.

- Your RMC Board of Directors – We received the largest number (10ea) of high caliber candidates from different facets of our industry applying for board positions. Hugh Long is new to the board and named secretary of the Chapter. Please welcome Hugh when you see him next.
- Our strategic planning session - The room was full of participants for Strategic Planning event. Most board members had received feedback from many of you on desired new topics and continuation of established subjects. We had a lively discussion on what we needed to cover (upon request: 4 seminar events will take us outside of Denver).
- Leadership - Rex Kohart and Pat Wike will represent RMC during CLC in ST. Louis where they will reveal our year over year growth strategy.
 - Local Region 2 director Frank Eichenlaub, Tom Gorman and Dick Amell both Director at Large
 - Past board founders, board presidents and chapter leaders are circling back around to get involved
 - Today we have a record number of active “Friends of the Board”. Come join in...
 - In-state talent is a big deal. Top industry speakers and leaders office here in Colorado such as Tom Gorman, Ron Hranac, Dick Amell, and Jorge Salinger.
- Improved navigation for website – Visit our website, it is now even better than before. See what's changed: <http://www.scte.org/rockymtn>.

2010:




We already had a very successful Industry Basics in January, I hope you made it. We received some great feedback on the presentations from Joe Thomas and Neil Serafin. We will be training on a much sought after topic “Hardening the premises network” in March. In May we will have a wonderful technology packed seminar on All Digital, Living in a Digital World, Bandwidth Recovery. In August we will again offer one of our most popular topics, Digital Testing and Measurements.

The next seminar will cover drop hardening, updated troubleshooting techniques, National Electric Code (NEC)/ bonding, connections, Leakage / Ingress, and we will also host BPS training and testing during that session. In November we will dive into IP Basics. This topic is on every engineer’s list. It will cover Internet Protocol applications in our networks, IP management for voice traffic, IP Digital Video mediums, IP routing and networking, and the impact of IPV6 in our operations. In keeping with a great tradition we have also planned the first session for 2010 in January. This will be commercial installations and applications. Also take note of industry scheduling shifts such as changing up SCTE Emerging technologies to combine with CableLabs and NCTE and call it “Spring Technical Forum”.

June 15th and 16th we will have a couple days of vendor show floor activity, cable game competition, fun golf, top notch professional networking, good food, and great guest speakers. Please come join the rest of the chapter in what has come to be a highlight event for everyone’s year.

2010 Chapter Events – Ver.2.1

Telecom Industry Current Events	Professional Development, Benefits of Certification	Take-a-ways “Getting that one thing out of this seminar”
Membership benefits	Safety message	Scholarship opportunities

Date	Location	Subject	Speaker
Jan 21	Comcast Iliff, Englewood, CO	Cable 101	Neil Serafin, CabTel and Joe Thomas, Fujitsu
Mar. 16 Mar. 18	Albuquerque, NM ----- Comcast Iliff, Englewood, CO	Drop Hardening - A deep look at the critical nature & common sense approach to a one-stop Install or Service Call without repeats.	Ron Hranac, Cisco, Nick Segura, Charter Ron Hranac, Cisco, Nick Segura, Charter
May 10-14	Los Angeles CA	<i>2010 Spring Technical Forum - SCTE, NCTA, and CableLabs® are partnering to provide cable telecommunications technical professionals with a brand new event called the Spring Technical Forum</i>	
May 20	CableLabs, Louisville, CO	All Digital, Living in a Digital World, Bandwidth Recovery	Jorge Salinger, Comcast - NGA Kevin Taylor, Comcast-All Digital Joe Casasanta, BigBand Networks, SDV
June 15 -16	Inverness Hotel & Golf Club Englewood, CO	Lunchtime technology presentation plus Noon Technical session: Future Tech & Home Technology	tbd
Aug. 10 Aug. 12	Albuquerque, NM ----- Comcast Mineral Littleton, CO	Digital Testing & Meas. MER/BER	Al Silva, JDSU Al Silva, JDSU
Oct. 20-22	New Orleans, LA	<i>Cable-Tec EXPO-The industry's engineering show of the year. Expo provides the opportunity to discover and learn first-hand about the latest in cable technology, products and services</i>	
Nov. 11	Charter Comm.Greenwood Village, CO	Intermediate IP (Routing, Switching, and Protocols)	
Jan 13, 2011	Comcast Iliff, Englewood, CO	Commercial Installations & Applications	
3 rd Wednesday	On Line	A series of live, interactive, Web-based seminars offered the third Wednesday of every month. <u>Free for SCTE members</u> ; \$29 for nonmembers. The next event is IPv6 in the Data Center Wednesday, March 17 http://www.scte.org/content/index.cfm?pID=940	SCTE Live LEARNING 

You can find past presentations at the bottom of this seminar events notice page:

<http://chapters.scte.org/rockymtn/page3.html>

Also, “Save the date” for these next board meetings (please come share your thoughts):

Date	Location	Agenda highlights
4/16	Champps Americana	
6/11	Inverness Hotel	Pre-Symposium
7/16	Champps Americana	
9/17	Champps Americana	
11/11	Charter Communications	Election Prep
1/7/11	Champps Americana	2011 Planning Session

Thank you for your support,

Nick Segura

Technical Corner

SCTE Tech Tips can help to enhance your technical proficiency. This is an excellent member benefit; get yours at: <http://www.scte.org/content/index.cfm?pID=1718>



Whether you are looking to find out more about a specific technical issue or you just need a refresher on a basic engineering principle, SCTE Tech Tips can help to enhance your technical proficiency. SCTE Tech Tips are quick-hitting and focused resources designed to provide all cable telecommunications engineering professionals with an overview of relevant technical subjects or concepts.

Each SCTE Tech Tip will provide a brief overview of a topic that is part of the foundation of our industry. Additionally, Tech Tips will include links to industry resources, charts and tools, technical conversion tables, and interactive practice assessments.

SCTE Tech Tips are a valuable members-only resource for all levels of our engineering profession.

Current Featured Tech Tip:

[Metric Conversion and CATV](#) - Being able to convert measurements from the English System to the metric system and back is one of the building blocks necessary in creating a good engineering foundation. If you are an SCTE member, log into access this and other Tech Tips. If you are not a member, [join today](#) for access to this and other member benefits.

To access additional Tech Tips and resources, click [Tech Tips](#).

If you wish to submit ideas for future Tech Tips, or submit an entire Tech Tip, e-mail Techtips@scte.org. Members who submit Tech Tips that are accepted and published on the SCTE website will receive RUs toward recertification.

[SCTE Implication Papers \(Great value to Members \)](#)

SCTE Implication Papers focus on new technologies and solutions being deployed within the telecommunication industry. Derived from the papers will be the implications of this technology to various segments of operators' organizations, clearly defining how these new technologies will impact their organization and their specific responsibilities. Topics include:

- Deployment Outlook
- Budgeting needs
- Network Upgrades
- Workforce Training

The implication papers, which can be downloaded as a PDF, will be made available on the SCTE website. If you would like to submit a proposal for an Implication Paper, please see the [Call for Implication Papers](#) document. If you have questions, please email ImplicationPapers@scte.org.

Current Featured Implication Paper:

[Deploying Enhanced Media Services with MoCA®](#)

SCTE and Spirent Communications have teamed to create the first implication paper – Deploying Enhanced Media Services with MoCA®. This paper introduces the implications and benefits of deploying a home MoCA® network for the MSO to support DVR sharing and other future media sharing services.

If you are member, log in to access the implications or download the entire document.

If you are not a member, [join today](#) for access to SCTE Implication Papers. To access the implications or download the paper: [Deploying Enhanced Media Services with MoCA](#)

If you wish to be included in the Call for Papers database for consideration for future op opportunities, please email your request and contact information (name, company, address, phone/fax numbers, and your email) to gcalcaterra@scte.org.

Frank Eichenlaub Jr.
SCTE Region 2 Director
Systems Engineer
Cisco

Scholarship Opportunity

By Joe Thomas

In these hard times job loss is collateral damage to the effects of the credit, housing, and energy issues affecting our country. The Rocky Mountain Chapter is proud to be in the position to offer its members a way of providing some security or opportunity in these times. We believe that through a scholarship program we can assist members wanting to differentiate themselves from their peers through education and certification.

Why does the RMC support a Scholarship Program for its Members?

We make it easy on our members to enroll, test, and certify for SCTE certifications covering a wide range of job classifications and skills. Certificates range from residential installation practices to digital video engineering and all points in-between. Visit the <http://chapters.scte.org/rockymtn> web site for certification offerings. Our scholarship application should take you less than 15 minutes to complete and you'll just need to add two letters of recommendation before sending to us.

Why should I certify with the SCTE?

The SCTE is the leading source of certification specific to our industry. There are over 15,000 worldwide members and more than 3,000 members enrolled in SCTE certification programs. It is the most comprehensive and widely recognized program in the industry.

In this competitive job market any edge you can give yourself will help you rise above the masses when being considered for a promotion or a new job. Believe me when I say, that experience and "time in the trenches" is invaluable to our employers and it has let many of us earn a great living in a great industry.

However, there are large numbers of people out there looking for job that have time and work experience on their side. Unemployment is expected to move into the double digits in 2009 and competition is only going to become fiercer. How will you secure your current position or prepare yourself for the next promotion opportunity? Today you need something else to demonstrate your commitment to expanding your work knowledge and skills. Otherwise your resume looks just like the two dozen other ones sitting on a hiring manager's desk.

College classes are another avenue for motivated individuals. A college degree is a fantastic goal and the SCTE Foundation has funds available for grant to help you here as well. Consult the www.SCTE.org web site for more details. But College is not for everyone and the time, family responsibilities, and other constraints are endless. SCTE certification allows you to simply test at a local seminar after home studying for as long as you wish. There is no set class schedule or deadlines. The RMC offers testing at about every seminar. Certification is a viable route for many whom have full time jobs but yet want to advance and demonstrate their knowledge. The Rocky Mountain Scholarship program covers membership cost, testing fees, and peer recognition. The details of how to apply for a scholarship from the RMC is available on our web site: www.scte.org

Next Seminar Event

Hardening the Drop Network

- **March 16th 2010** in Albuquerque New Mexico
- **March 18th 2010** in Englewood Colorado

What?

Take an in-depth look into the critical nature of the Customer Premises Installation and trouble call. How to achieve a lifetime install and a single stop trouble call resolution... (*your customers should not know your technicians on a first name basis*).

- Critical components of the drop and inside wiring network. Understanding “why” performance can sometimes suffer.
- Key troubleshooting – going past what the training manuals tell you.
- Why the concept of “we don’t have enough time to do it right, but we have enough time to do it over” will kill your customer’s good will towards you and your company.

Who?

Ron Hranac, Technical Leader, Cisco Systems, Inc.
Nick Segura, Corp. Manager of Quality Assurance, Charter Comm.

When?

March 16th (Albuquerque NM)
March 18th (Englewood CO)
9:00 AM to 12:00 pm Morning Seminar
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM Lunch
1:05 PM to 4:05 PM Afternoon Seminar

Where?

March 16th Comcast Facility Albuquerque New Mexico:
4611 Montbel Place NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107
Sandia Conference Room

March 18th Comcast Iliff office
8000 E. Iliff
Englewood, Colorado
Amphitheatre

How Much?

Free - for SCTE Members
-If not already a member become one for \$68
\$10 for non-members. Lunch is provided.

There will be certification testing available – *The material covered is most relevant to BPS Certification*

“Certification demonstrates to a candidate's peers and company management that they have the initiative to acquire knowledge and improve their skills and abilities”.

Please contact us with any questions:

Rex Kohart (303) 603-2916 Rex_Kohart@cable.comcast.com

Steve Murphy (720)267-3038 Steve_Murphy@cable.comcast.com

2010 Elected Board of Directors

Name	email	Company	Position	Phone Number
Steve Brown	Steve80134@comcast.net	InterMtn. Consult.		303-898-1027
Frank Eichenlaub	eichenf@cisco.com	Cisco Systems	Board, Web Master Region II Director	303-790-6659
Lane Johnson	l.johnson@cablelabs.com	CableLabs		303-717-5123
Rex Kohart	Rex_Kohart@cable.comcast.com	Comcast		303-603-5639
Dave Krook	David.Krook@technetix.com	Technetix		303-408-4116
Hugh Long	hlong222@comcast.net	Charter	Secretary	303-601-5930
Steve Murphy	Steve_Murphy@cable.comcast.com	Comcast	Treasurer	720-267-3038
Nick Segura	Nick.Segura@chartercom.com	Charter	President	303-669-3705
Jim Stewart	jim_stewart2@cable.comcast.com	Comcast		303-603-5687
Joe Thomas	Joseph.Thomas@us.fujitsu.com	Fujitsu	Vice President	303-953-1386

Supporting Friends of the Board 2010

Definition: Somebody who supports the functions of the local chapter by participating in meetings provides input that helps drive board decisions, volunteers, speaks supportive, and generally those who make an impact through their involvement.

Name	email	Company	Position	Phone #
Alan Babcock	ababcock@cmitsolutions.com	CMIT Solutions	Friend	303-478-1660
Kevin Bland	Kevin.Bland@chartercom.com	Charter	Friend	(303) 588-0529
Joe Coffey	Joe.Coffey@ecitele.com	ECI Telecom	Friend	513-332-8051
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Please contact any one of us with your questions or ideas.